

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 remain in the application.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Drawing rejection:

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Xuan Thai for clarification of the drawing rejection per phone message of June 2004. Applicants have submitted a replacement sheet identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet". Accordingly, the rejection of the drawing is believed to be overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

*Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0095533 to Esterberg, et al.*

Applicants respectfully traverse. Esterberg fails to teach or suggest a plurality of connector pins at the host and at least one module that are electrically configured using the configurable logic.

Esterberg teaches how to develop a variety of modules as shown in FIG. 3, (20), (50) and (70) each having a side connector (34), (62), (82) for plugging into connector receptacle (36) of personal computer (10). However, in Esterberg each connection "A-J" is assigned a predetermined function. FIGs. 4-8 show that:

- connection "A" is always Video/DVI;
- connection "B" is always Parallel;
- connection "C" is always Serial;
- connection D is always USB;
- connection E is always PS/2;
- connection "F" is always IEEE;
- connection "G" is always TV;
- connection "H" is always S-Video;
- and
- connection "J" is always EEPROM.

The connectors (34), (62) and (82) of Esterberg only differ from each other in that different physical connections are missing on each one:

- connector (34) is missing connections "F", "H" and "G";
- connector (62) is missing connections "B", "C" and "E"; and
- connector (82) is missing connections "E", "F" and "G".

Thus, Esterberg fails to teach the electrical configuration of a plurality of connector pins at the host and at least one module using configurable logic as claimed by Applicants' invention.

Esterberg teaches how to interface a module to a computer for each specific memory (126), (128), (130) associated with the personal computer industry. Esterberg teaches that when the module is plugged into the system using the connections of connectors (34), (62), (82) into connector receptacle (36) in a pre-configured standard, the EEPROM (126) or (128) or (130) will send connector types as part of the module through one of the dedicated ports (J) to the computer (10). As described in paragraph [0040] of Esterberg, computer (10) allocates resources for those connections that are present and de-allocates previously allocated resources from the computer components when the module does not have a particular connection that was present on a previously installed module.

Hence, the rejection of claims 1-16 is believed to be overcome.

Accordingly, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,

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